

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONROV 02215 271702Z
ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8697

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONROVIA 2215

PLEASE PASS GRIFFIN SMITH, WHITE HOUSE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJECT: GOL/USG: SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP

1. REGRET DELAY IN TRANSMISSION OF NARRATIVE REQUESTED ON
SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP BUT TRUST THAT WHICH FOLLOWS IS OF
SOME HELP.

2. QTE THE SPECIAL FRIENDSHIP THAT EXISTS BETWEEN LIBERIA
AND THE UNITED STATES HAS ITS ROOTS IN HISTORY. IN 1820,
FREE BLACK AMERICANS AND FORMER SLAVES BEGAN RETURNING TO
AFRICA UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE AMERICAN COLONIAL
SOCIETY TO FORM A NEW NATION. IN 1847 THESE SETTLERS
JOINED WITH THEIR INDIGENOUS BROTHERS TO FOUND THE REPUBLIC OF
LIBERIA, A REPUBLIC WHOSE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE,
CONSTITUTION AND LAWS MAKE THE SAME COMMITMENT TO HUMAN
RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY AND FREE ENTERPRISE AS DO AMERICAN
POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS. THE PART AMERICANS PLAYED IN
LIBERIA'S FOUNDATION, THE VALUES THE TWO PEOPLES SHARED,
THE EXPERIENCE OF THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE THE SETTLERS
BROUGHT TO LIBERIA, IN A WORD HISTORY ITSELF, ENSURED
LIBERIA AND THE UNITED STATES WOULD BUILD CLOSE TIES.
THE TWO NATIONS WERE ALLIES IN BOTH WORLD WARS. THE
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UNITED STATES HAS BECOME LIBERIA'S MAJOR TRADING PARTNER;
AND AMERICAN BUSINESS, THE MAJOR INVESTOR IN LIBERIA.
THE TWO GOVERNMENTS MAINTAIN CLOSE CONSULTATION ON INTER-
NATIONAL ISSUES AND HAVE BEEN EQUALLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE
DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. ABOVE ALL,
THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO PEOPLES IS GUARANTEED--
NURTURED AND ENRICHED AS IT IS BY FAMILY TIES, BY THE

FREQUENT EXCHANGE OF VISITS, BY SHARED EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES AND BY A COMMON VIEW OF THE FUTURE. UNQTE.
CARTER

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NNN

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